

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Reagan campaigns for human rights

SAN JOSE (R) — President Reagan called for respect for human rights and a commitment to democracy as part of Latin America's struggle against leftist guerrillas trying to overthrow governments in the region. On the last day of a five-day tour of Latin America, he also refused to howl demands that the United States should abandon its policies aimed at isolating Cuba and Nicaragua. He said U.S. policy would not change until the two countries abandon what he views as subversive actions in Central America. Mr. Reagan spoke after he and Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge signed a new extradition treaty between their countries.

Nicaraguan hijacks plane to San Jose

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (R) — A member of the Nicaraguan army hijacked a Nicaraguan Air Force plane Saturday and forced its two-man crew to fly to Costa Rica, police here said. Director of National Security Francisco Tacsan said the army deserter landed at a small airport outside San Jose. Costa Rican Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano ordered the plane returned immediately to the Nicaraguan government and police were instructed to protect the hijacker. Police declined to identify the deserter or the plane's crewmen.

Volume 7 Number 2130

AMMAN, SUNDAY DECEMBER 5, 1982 — SAFAR 20, 1403

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Arab team in Pakistan en route to Peking

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein discussed the latest Middle East peace efforts with Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq soon after arriving here Saturday at the head of a seven-member Arab League mission, Pakistani officials said.

The party arrived from Moscow and was to spend the night here before going on to Peking Sunday. The officials said King Hussein briefed Gen. Zia on talks in Moscow to outline an Arab peace plan to Soviet leaders.

The delegation includes the Foreign Ministers of Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Morocco, Jordan and Tunisia and a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The officials said the talks here also included an exchange of views on bilateral relations between Pakistan and Jordan and matters of interest to the Islamic World. Gen. Zia leaves Sunday on his first official visit to the United States, and a senior Pakistani official

Saturday spoke of the possibility of Pakistan helping to narrow the gap between the U.S. and the PLO on the Middle East question.

Foreign Ministry Secretary Niaz Naik told reporters Pakistan could "perhaps be in a position to play a modest role in trying to bridge the gap between the adopted positions." The delegation was met at Islamabad Airport by President Zia-ul-Haq and senior members of the Pakistani government.

The King and his accompanying delegation were accorded an official welcome ceremony during which King Hussein inspected the guard of honour and met with senior officials and heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Pakistan.

In the evening, King Hussein and his delegation were guests of honour at a dinner banquet given by President Zia-ul-Haq.

'Realistic opportunity'

Meanwhile in Moscow the Soviet News Agency TASS has said a realistic opportunity has been created for Soviet-Arab action on a Middle East peace settlement after an Arab League committee outlined an Arab peace plan for the region.

The seven-member delegation led by King Hussein held talks Friday with Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

TASS said it was noted at the talks that Soviet Middle East peace plans, set out in a speech by the late Leonid Brezhnev on Sept. 15, coincided with the approach to a settlement endorsed by the Arab League summit in Fez the same month.

The Arab plan calls for an independent Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"A realistic opportunity is thereby created for extensive coordinated actions with a view to facilitating the achievement of genuine peace in the region," TASS said in its account of the meeting.

Mr. Andropov warned the committee against accepting President Reagan's peace plan for the region, which envisages self-rule for the Palestinians in association with Jordan, TASS said.

It quoted the Soviet side as saying the U.S. plan was intended to divide the Arab countries, impose on them decisions suiting only Israel and the United States and, above all, prevent the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

It made no reference to the Arab delegation's views on Mr. Reagan's plan, which Arab countries have not rejected.

The Kremlin has consistently stated that a Middle East settlement can be achieved only with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO.

TASS said the Soviet side brought to the Arab delegation's attention Moscow's call for a special international conference on the Middle East with all sides concerned.



Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh addresses a public rally Saturday on the occasion of Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (Petra photo).

Public rally expresses Solidarity with Palestinian People

AMMAN (J.T.) — A public rally was held Saturday at the Professional Association Complex in Amman on the occasion of the Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

Speakers at the conference voiced support for the joint Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation describing it as a serious step aimed at "rescuing our kinsmen and the occupied land from Israeli rule".

The speakers, who represented various trade unions, the public

sector and religious denominations in Jordan stressed the importance of cohesion between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and declared their rejection of the so-called "alternative homeland" for the Palestinians.

They called on the Arab states to mobilise their resources and build up their "intrinsic power to stop Israeli expansionism which is directed against Arab interests and existence". They deplored "total U.S. backing of Israel and

the hostile American attitude towards the Palestine cause".

The speakers paid tribute to the inhabitants of the Israeli-occupied Arab lands for their "steadfastness" and rejection of the Israeli-imposed civilian administration rule. They praised the "heroic struggle of the Lebanese and Palestinian people" against Israel's invasion of Lebanon. They also called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war and for strengthening Arab ties with friendly nations.

Oman imposes news blackout on U.S. military exercises

BAHRAIN (R) — Oman imposed a news blackout Saturday on exercises by U.S. forces in this Gulf country which defence officials in Washington said would begin this weekend.

The officials said Friday that about 2,500 troops, F-15 fighters, an Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS) plane, B-52 bombers and the nuclear aircraft carrier Independence would take part.

About 1,500 marines would land during the week-long exercises in Oman, which has an agreement granting the United States access to military facilities in an emergency.

Omani officials in Muscat declined to comment on the manoeuvres, which follow more extensive exercises last year involving about 5,000 troops in separate operations in Oman, Egypt, Sudan and Somalia.

U.S. navy officers in the Gulf declined to comment on the exercises, which American officials said were aimed to show the United States' ability to respond to any Soviet threat to friendly Gulf states.

Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, have been extremely reluctant to appear associated with a proposed U.S. Rapid Deployment Force for the Gulf.

Oman, the only member of the Gulf Cooperation Council to have faced a major insurgency, has appeared more ready to work with the United States in the security field.

But, as Saturday's news blackout demonstrated, it is not anxious that military links with the West should have a high profile. Western diplomats in the Gulf said.

Oman occupies a strategic position controlling the Western side of the Straits of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf. In the mid-1970s it quelled a rebellion by leftist insurgents in its southern Dhofar province.

Sectarian fighting erupts in Lebanon

MTAILE, Lebanon (R) — Christian and Druze militiamen fought sporadic gunbattles Saturday in the mountains southeast of Beirut, scene of a series of sectarian clashes in recent weeks.

Residents said the fighting, concentrated in the village of Brih 25 kilometres from the capital, flared Friday and continued into Saturday, at one point mortar shells landed on the neighbouring village of Mtaile, they said.

An Israeli military spokesman in Tel Aviv said 11 people were killed overnight and an Israeli soldier was wounded by a stray bullet.

Lebanese radio stations said police and rescue services had not been able to gather accurate casualty figures Saturday because of the fighting.

In mid-afternoon, the occasional sniper's bullet cracked over the rain-washed, deserted streets of Mtaile. A column of two dozen Christian militiamen, wearing flak jackets and steel helmets and each carrying a metal ammunition box, moved out past a burnt-out jeep to rest from the

fighting. A few hundred metres further up the wooded hillside, smoke from a burning house in Brih curled up to merge with the low cloud.

Two Israeli armoured personnel carriers and a Merkava tank rattled along the rutted road out of the village but then turned around and drove back towards Brih. The Israelis would not speak to reporters.

Radio stations have reported scores of kidnappings in the area and residents warned of flying checkpoints at which militiamen arrested anyone they could lay their hands on from the opposing religious sect.

The Christians and Druzes are traditional enemies whose blood feuds date back to the early nineteenth century.

The latest round of fighting started when the Israeli army invaded the mountains in June and allowed rightist Christian militiamen to move into areas that had for years been under the undisputed control of Druze militia. Tension increased after Druze

leader Walid Jumblatt was nearly killed by a car bomb in Beirut on Wednesday.

Most shops in towns and villages throughout the mountains were shut Saturday and roads were almost deserted.

In the village of Kfar Him, a group of young men stringing a picture of Mr. Jumblatt's assassinated father, Kamal, across the street stopped a passing car to question the driver.

A few kilometres further on, Christian militiamen had set up a flying checkpoint outside a petrol station on a lonely stretch of road.

Some Lebanese politicians have called for the Israeli army to withdraw from the mountains so that the Lebanese army, possibly backed by the multinational force now operating in Beirut, can move in to keep the peace.

But some local residents believe that any sudden Israeli departure could lead to even more violence. One Christian militiaman near Mtaile said Saturday: "The Israelis upset a very delicate balance here... if they left there would be a bloodbath."

Shamir: U.S. move to block aid may hamper M.E. peace

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Saturday an attempt by the U.S. administration to block an increase in American aid for Israel could threaten Middle East peace.

Interviewed on Israel Radio, Mr. Shamir said President Ronald Reagan's administration was opposing the aid increase for 1983, approved by a congressional committee this week, because it wanted to persuade Arab states to support the President's Middle East peace plan.

"The effort to win over Arab states by hitting at Israel endangers peace in the Middle East," Mr. Shamir said.

Statements made by various administration officials opposing the aid increase had been unfriendly in tone and hurtful to the Israeli government, he added.

On Thursday, the U.S. Senate

Appropriations Committee voted for an \$11.5 billion foreign aid bill with \$2.5 billion for Israel, \$475 million over Mr. Reagan's request.

Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam said in a letter that Mr. Reagan feared an Israeli aid increase might jeopardise peace efforts "by appearing to endorse and reward Israel's policies".

Israeli officials welcomed the decision and said they would lobby to have it confirmed. It must still be approved by the House Appropriations Committee and the whole Senate.

The Senate committee chairman, Republican Mark Hatfield, said the action was futile because the House of Representatives had already decided not to pass any new appropriation but to allow foreign aid spending to continue at present levels.

Gemayel, Henu discuss military cooperation

BEIRUT (R) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu met President Amin Gemayel in Beirut Saturday for talks on military cooperation and boosting the 4,000-man peace force deployed in the Lebanese capital.

Mr. Henu told reporters outside Mr. Gemayel's home after the meeting that France was ready to help train Lebanese army officers in the use of advanced arms.

The tiny Lebanese Army, which split on sectarian lines in the 1975-76 civil war, is being built up mainly with U.S. assistance. But Mr. Henu said France could do more for the army than just supplying weapons.

The minister arrived on Thursday night to inspect France's contingent in the peace force, which also contains U.S. and Italian troops. He was due to fly to southern Lebanon to see French troops in a separate force on United Nations duty before returning to Paris.

Mr. Henu gave no firm reply when asked if France would meet Lebanon's request, made on Monday, for the multinational force to be doubled. He said that when Mr. Gemayel decided the time was right to boost the force, France would discuss the matter and send a military mission here.

French officials say Paris is still discussing Lebanon's request for more troops.

State-run Beirut Radio later reported that the Lebanese army was interested in buying French helicopters and gunboats for coastal defence. It did not say if any firm deals had been concluded.

liu troops. He was due to fly to southern Lebanon to see French troops in a separate force on United Nations duty before returning to Paris.

Mr. Henu gave no firm reply when asked if France would meet Lebanon's request, made on Monday, for the multinational force to be doubled. He said that when Mr. Gemayel decided the time was right to boost the force, France would discuss the matter and send a military mission here.

French officials say Paris is still discussing Lebanon's request for more troops.

State-run Beirut Radio later reported that the Lebanese army was interested in buying French helicopters and gunboats for coastal defence. It did not say if any firm deals had been concluded.

European leaders concerned over pace of Mideast peace

COPENHAGEN (R) — European Community leaders Saturday voiced deep concern at the slow pace of peace efforts in the Middle East and called for a speedy withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

In a communique at the end of two days of summit talks here, the 10 heads of government said Arabs and Israelis must grasp the opportunities for peace presented by recent U.S. and Arab League initiatives.

"It (the European Council) called upon each of the parties to assume its international responsibilities without further hesitations," the communique said.

In what diplomats said was a clear criticism of Israel, the community leaders said both sides should stop ignoring United Nations Security Council resolutions and explicitly make known their approval of such resolutions.

The communique spoke of the leaders' "greatest concern" at the lack of progress towards the withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian and other foreign forces from Lebanon.

"The persistence of this situation would constitute a threat to the integrity and unity of Lebanon, carrying serious dangers for

the whole region," the communique said.

The community leaders said that troops could be withdrawn in stages, but should take place "within a fixed and short period of time" and under conditions which would allow the Lebanese government to exercise its sovereignty fully.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told a news conference that the community would continue to contribute to peace efforts in the region.

Several of the government leaders had expressed their appreciation of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's efforts in Lebanon, she added.

But Mrs. Thatcher said she would continue refusing to meet representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) until it eschewed violence.

King Hassan of Morocco and an Arab League delegation last month cancelled a planned visit to London because of the British government's stance over the PLO.

"I do not myself receive representatives of the PLO and nor does the Foreign Secretary (Francis Pym)," Mrs. Thatcher said.

Pakistan says row with U.S. over F-16 planes resolved

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan said Saturday its recent row with the United States over the supply of advanced F-16 fighter planes has been resolved before President Zia-ul-Haq pays his first official visit there next week.

"The matter has been resolved," Foreign Ministry Secretary Niaz Naik told reporters when releasing the programme of Gen. Zia's 13-day tour of the U.S. and Canada starting on Monday.

The controversy surfaced earlier this week when reports from Washington said Pakistan had refused to take delivery of the first six of the 40 contracted planes because they were not fitted with special electronic equipment.

Pakistan said it thought the aircraft would carry equipment for detecting enemy ground and airborne radar. U.S. Defence Department officials said this was reserved for America's NATO allies.

Asked whether the F-16 would have the equipment which Pakistan wanted, Mr. Naik said only the problem of avionics had been resolved. He said it would be correct to presume that the matter had been resolved to the satisfaction of both sides.

The F-16s are in a \$3.2 billion military and economic aid package for Pakistan agreed last year. The first six were to have arrived

this week but delivery was delayed due to the row.

Mr. Naik said they would now arrive in the next few weeks after sorting out what he called some technical details.

He would not say when Pakistan detected the absence of the sought-after F-16 equipment, adding it was no use going into the past when the matter was resolved and "out of the way".

Some Pakistan Air Force pilots have been training on one of the F-16s in the U.S. for two months. Mr. Naik said there was no fixed agenda for talks between Gen. Zia and President Reagan but added they were likely to focus on major international issues, including the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan.

The U.S., he said, was well aware of the positive role Pakistan could play in the stability of this region because of its standing in the Islamic World, as a non-aligned state and its "special relationship" with Saudi Arabia, Iran, the Gulf states and Turkey.

ROMERO

The Italian rest.

opened as of today

Tel. 44227

Afghan authorities execute 10 rebels

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan authorities have executed 10 anti-government rebels condemned to death for killing innocent people, theft and other crimes, Radio Kabul reported Saturday. The radio, monitored here, identified the 10 as members of three Pakistan-based Afghan resistance groups who were sentenced recently by a special revolutionary court. Last Wednesday Radio Kabul announced death sentences imposed on three members of one rebel group, but Saturday's broadcast did not say whether they were among those executed.

HOME NEWS

Dudin opens pan-Arab seminar

Conference urges proper utilisation of solar energy in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — "The Arab World, which enjoys sunshine almost all the year round should be able to employ solar energy in producing electricity, growing food, desalinating sea water and irrigating vast areas of cultivable land," Minister of Agriculture Marwan Dudin said here Saturday.

Addressing a four-day conference on the use of solar energy for agricultural purposes, the minister said that coordination among Arab countries in the proper use of solar energy will certainly help the Arabs to overcome many economic problems.

Mr. Dudin paid tribute to the efforts of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) which, he said, is seizing every opportunity to help promote the Arab World's agricultural sector on scientific basis.

The conference was organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the AOAD whose representative, Dr. Mohammad Othman Saleh, called on the Arab Nation to make proper utilisation of solar energy for economic purposes.

Dr. Saleh, who is also the AOAD's deputy director, spoke about the organisation's role in developing the Arab World's agricultural production and about the importance of utilising solar power as a substitute for the world's traditional sources of energy which are being depleted.

He expressed hope that the conference would lay down the groundwork for cooperation among Arab states in the use of solar energy for agricultural purposes.

Also addressing the delegates at the opening session was RSS Deputy Director Fakhraddin Al Daghestani who described the solar energy as an integral part of the Arab World's various sources of wealth. Food and agriculture are among the most important strategic subjects for the Arab Nation which at present imports more than half of its requirements of food, Dr. Daghestani told the delegates.

Only through scientific research the Arab World can make proper utilisation of solar energy, Dr. Daghestani said. He also outlined RSS programmes in the use of solar energy for heating, irrigation and refrigeration.

The conference will discuss the use of solar energy in agriculture, heating, refrigeration, storage, sea-water desalination, the dehydration of crops, irrigation, generating electricity and water pumping. The delegates will also exchange experiences in these fields and will try to lay down programmes for future use of solar energy technology.

Also on the agenda of the conference are: the use of renewable sources of energy, the effect of climatic conditions on agriculture and solar energy systems.

Taking part in the conference are delegates from nearly all Arab states and several specialised organisations in the Arab World and abroad.



Delegates from Arab countries attend a conference opened in Amman Saturday on use of solar energy for agricultural purposes (Petra photo)

Rains reported 'good and above average'

AMMAN (Petra) — The amount of rainfall in Jordan and its distribution since the beginning of this winter until the end of November was "good and above average," Meteorology Department Director Ali Abandah said Saturday.

Dr. Abandah said rains started relatively early this year as showers in the eastern part of the country between Oct. 22 and 25 but heavy showers fell in H4 which was six times the average causing floods and material and human loss in the desert area.

The rains hit west and south of the country and was above the annual average in the eastern and southern desert areas while in the hilly areas and the Jordan Valley it was nearly 30 per cent below average.

Dr. Abandah said that November was characterised by heavy rains but with intervals lasting for several days.

Seminar calls for joint Arab efforts in scientific research

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on chemistry reference books opened at Amman hotel Saturday.

Taking part in the seminar are teachers of chemistry from universities in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Iraq and representatives of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALESCO).

Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal made an opening speech in which he urged Arab countries to join hands in developing scientific research and progress which, he said, constitute a basic element for achieving Arab integration.

Dr. Tal described an ALESCO project for unifying chemistry teaching in the Arab World's secondary stage as a pioneer step towards achieving that goal.

Also addressing the session was ALESCO representative, Khairi Nashawati, who said that the participants will try to unify terms used in the field of chemistry among other subjects on their agenda.

JCO, W.German foundation sign services grant agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The West German Friedrich Naumann Foundation will grant the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) 2.2 million marks in services over the coming three years, in accordance with an agreement signed here Saturday.

The agreement was signed for the JCO by its Director-General Hassan Nabulsi and for the West German foundation by its representative Walter Ruedel.

Under the agreement the JCO will obtain specialised information in social, economic and vocational training as well as the production and distribution of educational media including audio-visuals aids. The agreement also provides for Jordanians to get training in communications and information.

NCC team meets Iraqi president

BAGHDAD (Petra) — A delegation from the National Consultative Council (NCC) led by its Speaker Suleiman Arar Saturday met here with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. During the meeting Mr. Arar reiterated Jordan's "firm stand by Iraq in its just war against Iran in defence of Arab rights, dignity and land."

Addressing the delegation, President Hussein said that for the Iraqis the war has now become "a way of life."

"The Iraqi people do not wish to have this war but it seems to them that it is necessary for safeguarding the sovereignty of the nation," he said. The president also paid tribute to Arab countries which are supporting Iraq in the Gulf war.

Arab Tourism Union to start Amman general meetings today

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Tourism Union (ATU) starts its general meetings here Sunday. ATU Secretary-General Abdul Rahman Abu Rahah said the major issue on the session's agenda is the speeding up of the ratification and signing of an Arab tourism organisation agreement passed by the Arab Economic and Social Council in 1980.

Eleven Arab countries have signed the agreement, and Dr. Abu Rahah said there are "good reasons behind the restructuring of the ATU into a new form as tourism industry has seen qualitative developments and changes during the last 10 years."

The new form will facilitate participation by the Arab governments in financial, administrative and legal activities of the tourist movement in the Arab World, Dr. Abu Rahah clarified.

Mrs. Mufti leaves for Tunis to attend social affairs meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufti left for Tunis Saturday to take part in a meeting due to open Sunday of the Arab social affairs ministers' executive bureau.

During the two-day meeting, the participants will discuss ways for developing social affairs projects in the Arab World and a special budget for the Arab Fund for Social Work.

Mrs. Mufti will later take part in a three-day meeting of Arab ministers of social affairs which is also due to open in Tunis on Wednesday.

The ministers are expected to discuss a programme for developing the conditions of Arab children, the activities of national children committees in the Arab World and ways to improve the conditions of Palestinian children.

Yarmouk University to host meeting on teaching sciences

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University will host a three-day seminar to discuss the prospect of establishing a centre for developing the teaching of sciences in the Arab World, according to Dr. Murid Abu Zaineh, director of the university's research centre.

Specialists from a number of Arab countries and Jordan will take part in the seminar which is scheduled to open Dec. 27, he said. He said meeting which will also discuss methods of teaching mathematics has been organised by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation.

Delegates from the Ministry of Education, Yarmouk University and the University of Jordan are also expected to take part in the seminar, he said.

JCO to distribute high-quality seeds to cooperatives in Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) branch here has made available 450 tonnes of improved seeds to be distributed to agricultural cooperative organisations in Irbid Governorate during the current season.

JCO Director Jamal 'Ubeidat Saturday said that the organisation has also acquired 400 tonnes of fertilisers to be sold to farmers cultivating rain-fed regions at reasonable prices. He said that JD 200,000 worth of fertilisers have been sold to farmers in the northern Badia region who grow tomatoes, cucumbers, marrows and eggplants. In the Zarqa region the Department of Agriculture said Saturday that it had distributed 2,000 kilogrammes of high quality potato seeds to farmers in the region. The farmers also received booklets to guide them on the planting of the potato seeds, it said.

Occupied territories figure high in AEU meeting agenda

AMMAN (Petra) — Economic conditions of the occupied Arab territories will be among the major topics for discussion at a two-day meeting of the Arab Economic Unity (AEU) ministerial meeting which opens here Sunday.

Arab ministers of trade, finance and economy or their representatives who will attend the meeting will also discuss such issues as customs, trade, statistics and technical aid programmes to poor Arab states as well as a fiscal budget for the Arab Economic Unity's General Secretariat.

Also on the agenda is a general review of world economic trends and economic challenges facing the Arab World and proposed solutions to a number of economic problems.

Delegates to the meeting began arriving here Friday.

2-week training course opens for road technicians

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-week training course on road construction and materials used in road building opened at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Saturday.

Delegates from eight Arab states including Jordan are taking part in the course which aims to improve the standard of technicians and engineers working in the field of road construction. The participants will hear lectures on aerial photography, land survey, classification of soil, materials used in road-building and other related topics. They will be taken on a tour of several construction projects like the Queen Alia International Airport, Abu Nuseir Housing Estate near Amman and the permanent buildings of Yarmouk University.

Addressing the opening session was the RSS's Building Research Centre's Acting Director Daoud Jabaji who spoke about the centre's activities and services it offers to construction businesses in Jordan and the Arab World.

The centre helps in raising technical standards of local building industries, draws up measurements and specifications for building materials and offers consultative services to research units, Dr. Jabaji said.

Also addressing the participants was United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Director in Jordan Adnan Naghawi who outlined the U.N.'s role in helping developing nations to promote their technical capabilities and employ technology and science in their various projects.

The course has been organised in cooperation with the United Nations Programme for Science and Technology.

Taking part in the course are delegates from North and South Yemen, Iraq, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain and Jordan.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regent confers with prime minister

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday conferred with Prime Minister Mudar Badran. The meeting was held at the Prime Ministry.

Delegate in Tunis for railway meeting

TUNIS (Petra) — Ministry of Transport Under-Secretary Hashem Al Taher arrived here Saturday to take part in the Arab Railway Union's (ARU) meeting due to open Sunday. During its meeting the union's board will discuss among other subjects a feasibility study for the establishment of an institute for railways and another for the establishment of a factory to assemble railway carriages. Taking part in the meeting are delegates from 10 Arab states. The Aleppo-based ARU was established in 1979.

Jordan attends human resources seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in a seminar which opened in Baghdad Saturday on forming a unified strategy for developing human resources in the Arab World. According to the director of the Jordanian Labour Ministry employment office who left for the three-day meeting Saturday, the delegates will discuss among other things planning human resources development and social security systems in Arab countries.

Craftsmen lent JD 619,900 in '82

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) granted craftsmen loans totalling JD 619,900 during 1982 against JD 523,300 in 1981, a bank spokesman said Saturday. This year's loans totalled 205 while those of last year were 170, he added. The loans were to finance craftsmen in carpentry, dressmaking, photo-studio, auto repair and shoemaking workshops and a bakery, according to the spokesman.

ACC loans total JD 101,000 in Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) office here granted 45 farmers a total of JD 101,000 during 1982, an ACC spokesman said. He added that the ACC granted farmers a total of JD 176,000 in 1981.

Furnished apartments in Shmeisani FOR RENT

Three bedrooms, salon, and dining room, kitchen, bathroom and veranda. Centrally heated.

Tel. 668283

Under The Patronage Of H.R.H. PRINCESS SARVATH

The Al Hussein Society For The Rehabilitation Of The Physically Handicapped

Invites You To

A CHARITY BAZAAR

At The Marriott Hotel, Thursday 9 Dec. 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Coffee will be served

FREE OFFER FROM

LIPTON

Collect box tops from Lipton teabags - 100 boxes &

CLAIM FREE

10 Tops
1 Sheaffer ball pen or 1 packet 100 teabags

25 Tops
1 Real leather Football - Made in W. Germany

50 Tops
1 Canon Solar Calculator

75 Tops
1 Lipton Wall clock or 1 Seiko Wall Clock

125 Tops
1 National Mixer/Blender

250 Tops
1 Philips Radio/Cassette 7201

500 Tops
1 Philips Radio/Cassette 8423

750 Tops
1 Philips Video games with 2 cassettes

1000 Tops
1 Air ticket valid for 35 days travel, Amman-Athens-Istanbul-Amman

2000 Tops
1 Philips 16" color TV with Remote control

You can exchange packtops at the following centers:

1. Lipton tea distribution vans
2. At the following branches of Transjordan Engineering Co.:

A. Amman: Shabsogh Street,
Tel: 39181 (5 lines)
Every Monday 3 to 6 p.m.

B. Aqaba:
Main Market, beside Post Office
Tel: 4413
First Thursday of every month 3 to 6 p.m.

C. Irbid
Baghdad Street, Beside Central Bank
Tel. 2967
First Tuesday of every month 3 to 6 p.m.

OFFER CLOSING MAY 31 ST. 1983

CAR FOR SALE

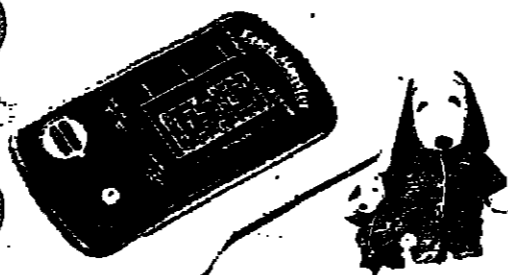
1981 Toyota Corolla, 1.6 DX 8000 km duties unpaid (leaving country soon).

Call: 663230

Come To The World Of ELECTRONIC GAMES at



SPORTS & ACTIVITIES CENTER
Wadi Sira St. Tel. 608271



We have the biggest toy collection in town

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

RESTAURANTS & BARS

MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT AMMAN AND AQABA

Offer typical Chinese Mandarin cuisines and take away
For quick lunch: 1 soup 1 main dish,
1 rice 1 tea or soft drink JD 2
Fully airconditioned

Amman
Tel. 661922 P.O. Box 9676
Wadi Saqra Road
Near Holiday Inn Hotel

AQABA
Tel. 4633 P.O. Box 598
Amman Road
Near the Main Circle

ROMERO

The Italian Restaurant

Opened as from TODAY

12:30 - 3:30

6:30 - midnight

Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle

Tel: 44227

La Terrasse

welcomes you daily to a spread of the most
delicious oriental and western foods, to the
lures of renowned Polish pianist
Christina.

We offer you:
Relaxing atmosphere, charcoal grills, fresh fish,
Laborious menu, in addition to
La Terrasse's delicious
specialties.

for reservations
Tel. 662831
Shmeisani

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan.
1st Circle, Jabal Amman,
near Ahllyah Girls School

Open daily
12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight
Tel. 38968

Take Home Service Available

Restaurant TAIWAN TOURISMO

Opp. Akilah Maternity Hos-
pital, 3rd Circle, Jabal
Amman, Tel. 41093.

Try our special "FLAMING
POT" fondue or Beking Duck
on your next visit. Take-Away
orders welcome.
Welcome & Thank you.

HOTELS

THE REGENCY PALACE HOTEL PRESENTS

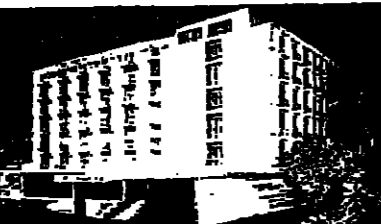
"The Royal Flush"

At
الامان
Dial 660000



DAILY BUSINESS LUNCHEON
BUFFET

At
AL MADABA RESTAURANT
JD 4.500 PER PERSON



One of the best
hotels in Amman
THE
AMBASSADOR

IN
SABASTIA
RESTAURANT
KOREAN
JAPANESE
CHINESE
EUROPEAN
FOOD

Tel. 665161-62-63
Ext. 93

Hotel Jerusalem International Melia

* Luncheon Buffet

Every FRIDAY & SUNDAY

BARBECUE Dinner

Every THURSDAY

Tel. 665121/8

Holiday Inn

Luncheon Buffet

Every Friday

Res. 663100



PHILADELPHIA HOTEL

4 STAR HOTEL

92 ROOMS

DISCO

SWIMMING POOL

COFFEE SHOP



TRANSPORTATION

To Advertise
in
this section
Call:

667171-2-3



CROWN
INTERNATIONAL
WORLDWIDE

Specialists in local & international
removals
shipping & forwarding (air, land, sea)
storage * packing * crating
clearing * door-to-door service
CROWN INTERNATIONAL EST.
Amman - Jabal Hussein - First Circle
Tel. 664090 Tlx. 22205 BESMCO JO
Aqaba Tel. 5778

CLEARANCE
SHIPPING - TRAVEL & TOURISM
AIR FREIGHT - PACKING

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Travel & Tourism

GENERAL SALES AGENTS FOR:
SAS SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES,
THAI AIRWAYS
Tel. 37195, 22324-5-6-7-8-9
Tlx. 21212, 21520, 21634
P.O. Box: 7806, AMMAN



To Advertise
in
this section
Call:

667171-2-3

MISCELLANEOUS

Scandinavian show room

living rooms
dining rooms
bedroom sets
wall units
lighting fixtures
club & for children

modern danish design
feather upholstery
tax-free if applicable
tel. 663990
civil defence street



The youthful style with an eye to the future

for this season
ORIENTAL

do your
XMAS & NEW YEAR
shopping at the
ZARUBA SOUVENIR
SHOP

at the Holiday Inn
Tel: 663100 ext. 3110

Jabal Amman
2nd Circle
Tel. 41816

studio-line



Absolutely!
The best optician in town is
OPTIKOS INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL. Contact lens centre. Same
day delivery. Open seven days a week.
Moderate prices.
OPTIKOS INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL
Eyes examined contact lenses special
prices for students, employees, teachers
and embassy staff.
OPTIKOS INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL. Tel. 42043 Amman

THE
INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL
CONTACT LENSE
CENTRE
EYES EXAMINED
CONTACT LENSE

SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
AMMAN TEL. 42043



JABAL AMMAN
tel 44556



MEIE Real
Estate

Your
Real Estate Agent
in Jordan

Tel. 42358, 42503
P.O. Box - 35107
TLX. 21867 JO.

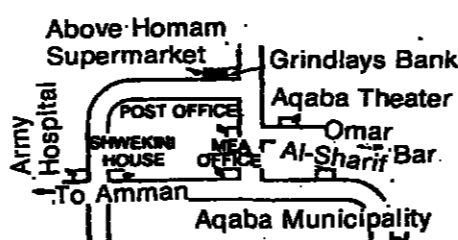
AQABA

To Advertise
in
this section
Call:

667171-2-3

CHINA RESTAURANT

The first and best
Chinese restaurant
in Aqaba. Take-away
service available.
Open daily 11:30 - 3:30
6:30 - 11.00 p.m. Tel. 4415.



Holiday Inn Aqaba

for
membership
At the Holiday Inn,
Aqaba

TENNIS COURT

please contact
Tel. 2427 (04)
Aqaba

AQUAMARINA HOTEL CLUB

RED SEA HOLIDAYS
FIVE DAYS SCUBA DIVING, HALF
BOARD, FIVE DIVING LESSONS INC.
LUDING INSTRUCTOR, EQUIPMENT,
TRANSPORT TO DIVING SITE, EVEN A
PICTURE OF YOU UNDERWATER.
For only JD 61.000
THE ONLY PLACE WHERE YOU
CAN ENJOY ALL WATER SPORTS
ACTIVITIES - FOR MORE IN-
FORMATION AND RES-
ERVATIONS PLEASE DO CALL
US: TELS. 4333/4/5/6
TLX: 62249 AQUAMA JO

Jordan Times

Editor: MOHAMMAD AMAD
Managing Editor: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH
Circulation Manager: RAMLE KHOORI
Advertising Manager: MOHAMMAD AMAD
Telephone: 667171-2-3-4
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Telegram: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscriptions and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Opportunistic reality

THE "realistic opportunity" created by the coincidence of the Arab peace plan with the Soviet plan for the Middle East must also be seen in the light of an "opportunistic reality" created by a second coincidence: the U.S. own plan for the area.

The talks of the Arab League's delegation in Moscow on Thursday and Friday presented the Arabs with a chance to understand better the new Soviet leadership while the Soviets could listen to a first-hand account of the common Arab position on the Palestine problem.

Both Soviets and Arabs understand that exchanges between the two sides are always useful and important. On the one hand, the Arabs know that the Soviet Union's cooperation is essential for any peaceful settlement in the Middle East; on the other, the Soviets are no doubt aware that the Arabs will have to lean towards a strong American role in any negotiated end to the Israeli occupation of the occupied territories.

There could not have been disagreements

in Moscow over the principles of a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. But if there were a Soviet warning to the Arabs not to accept the American plan for the Middle East and an Arab reminder that time is running out on an honourable settlement, reconciliation of the two different views, rather than widening the gap between them, would have won the day during the talks.

The Arabs and the Soviets would have recalled, as they should always do, that the late Leonid Brezhnev strongly urged to resolve every aspect of the Middle East conflict when he had a good working relationship with President Nixon in the early seventies, and he might have succeeded had it not been for the Kissinger doctrine of "Israel decides: not America".

If such an opportunity presents itself again, it will be much easier to count on Soviet-U.S. rapprochement to speed up the process of peace-making in the area. But can Arabs afford to wait for ever?

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Soviet support of Arab peace plan—an achievement

The Arab-Soviet talks held in Moscow on the Arab peace plan has achieved great success, demonstrated in the following:

1. The Soviet reiteration of its past stands, supporting the Palestinian cause, as a principled unchanging attitude.
2. The strong Soviet support for the Arab peace initiative, presented by the Arab League seven-member committee, headed by His Majesty King Hussein.
3. The crystallisation of a clear procedural framework for peace in the Middle East based on the convening of an international conference to be participated in by all concerned parties, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) included.

The positive outcome of the Moscow talks is a great success for the seven-member committee, and this in turn strengthens hope that an international joint effort can be arrived at, on the way to finding a solution to the Palestinian problem based on comprehensive and durable elements, a necessary step for securing peace in the region.

Al Dustour: Do not let Israel create a precedent

His Majesty King Hussein stressed during the Arab League seven-member committee's talks with the Soviet leadership the importance of the elimination of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories. This issue should be given priority over any others in the Arab and international drive for peace, the King clarified.

The United Nations General Assembly and Security Council have issued numerous resolutions demanding Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories, and emphasising the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people over its national soil. Nevertheless, the Arab peace plan, arrived at in Fez, is totally based on international legitimacy when it calls for a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Hence, the world community, and superpowers in particular, bear major responsibility in advancing the peace process.

After 15 years of Israeli occupation and its rejection of all Arab and international peace aspirations, daily practice is undertaken by Israel to restructure, not only the geographical nature of

the occupied territories, but also that of the demographic composition of the territories' inhabitants.

The world community is called upon to foil Israel's attempts at creating a precedent in modern history, allowing the aggressor to seize other people's land by force, and to maintain his occupation and exploitation of it, holding up falsified justifications and fake legalisations.

Israel could deceive and mislead good proportion of the world public opinion for a while through the World War II "holocaust" propaganda sometimes, and playing the same lamb other times. But the hundreds of thousands of bombs Israel enjoys experimenting on do have a big bang.

King Hussein's presentation of the Arab peace proposals to the Soviet leadership, and the highly-positive response to it are certain to reinforce the world drive for bringing tranquility to the region, and building the new and human society for all the peoples in it.

the occupied territories, but also that of the demographic composition of the territories' inhabitants.

The world community is called upon to foil Israel's attempts at creating a precedent in modern history, allowing the aggressor to seize other people's land by force, and to maintain his occupation and exploitation of it, holding up falsified justifications and fake legalisations.

Israel could deceive and mislead good proportion of the world public opinion for a while through the World War II "holocaust" propaganda sometimes, and playing the same lamb other times. But the hundreds of thousands of bombs Israel enjoys experimenting on do have a big bang.

King Hussein's presentation of the Arab peace proposals to the Soviet leadership, and the highly-positive response to it are certain to reinforce the world drive for bringing tranquility to the region, and building the new and human society for all the peoples in it.

Why I was expelled

By Mark Cheverton

Academic freedom and indeed the very existence of higher education in the occupied West bank is severely threatened. Already this year the Israeli military government has deported 21 university lecturers, including the president and vice-president of al-Najah university. At least 36 others have been prohibited from teaching and instructed to leave soon. Many others are under threat.

From Bethlehem university alone 67 lecturers — more than half the teaching staff of 120 — are likely to be affected in the end, and very large proportions of teachers at Bir Zeit and Hebron universities also face expulsion. This would obviously close the universities, destroying what the Vatican has taken years to foster at Bethlehem and others have struggled to build elsewhere in this strife-torn region. On Nov. 5, I became the first non-Palestinian to be forced to leave. My crime? Wanting to teach without political interference.

The military government is attempting to impose political conditions on teachers and students before they are allowed to teach or study in the West Bank. We are being required to sign a political commitment as a condition of receiving our work permits. This is a blatant infringement of academic freedom.

I went to the country to help people through education, but I am being prevented from doing so and instead am being forced to involve myself in the region's political turmoil. We have no objection to keeping the laws and security regulations: indeed, we signed a statement agreeing to do

so when we applied for our work permits. However, as Brother Thomas Scanlan, vice-chancellor of Bethlehem university says: "We do object to an unreasonable declaration that thrusts our teachers into the centre of the political debate which divided the region."

The statement we are required to sign (in Hebrew and Arabic) condemns the Palestine Liberation Organisation, saying in part: "I hereby declare that I am committed not to do any kind of work and not give any services which will help or support the so-called PLO organisation or any other hostile organisation." Personally, as a foreigner who came to help the people of the West Bank on purely humanitarian grounds, I neither support nor condemn the PLO. However, I cannot accept any political requirement of this kind as a condition for work.

British readers might like to consider what they would think of a requirement to sign an undertaking repudiating the Conservative party as a condition for their own work — given to them by a ruling Labour government... As a political condition for education the implications are even more serious.

At present only foreigners and Palestinians with foreign passports are immediately being required to sign, but there is every indication that this is only the beginning. At the start of term all teachers and students who did not come from Bethlehem were required to sign the commitment. Soldiers surrounded the university with road-blocks to prevent us entering. After the university was kept closed like this for a time the

military government suspended law 854 which, amongst other restrictions, required local teachers and students to sign, thus leaving just the foreigners having to sign to obtain their work permits. But law 854 could be implemented at any time.

All people have a right to decide their own politics: and the Palestinians choose the PLO as their political leadership. This statement condemning the PLO is highly offensive to a people already deprived of democracy and self-determination, and can thus only stir up more trouble by breeding resentment.

Why do we have to sign?

I went to the country initially to teach English in a refugee camp in Gaza, and then to teach biology as a laboratory instructor at Bethlehem university. I soon fell in love with the Palestinian people, their openness and friendliness. I want to help them through education. Now I am obliged to ask myself: "Why does the Israeli government want to interfere in higher education by asking us to sign this statement?" I've only been in the country for three months and have spent most of that time cloistered in a laboratory or classroom. Nevertheless some answers push themselves at me:

1. To collect propaganda statistics to prove that the Palestinian people do not support the PLO. Since this can't be done by taking a poll — because the Palestinians do see the PLO as their political leadership — it has to be done in some more devious way. Making the statement a condition for obtaining a permit is one such way. (Of course at the moment the sta-

tement is being required of foreigners, but this is seen as a preliminary step to making Palestinians sign it as well).

2. To destroy or disrupt education. Remarkable as this may seem, and I fought against the idea for a long time myself, I can think of no other explanation for Israel's overall policy on Palestinian education. Not only are we required to sign this statement, but law 854 would bring in further political restrictions on curriculum, finance, hire and fire of faculty members etc.

Bethlehem university is trying to erect a multi-purpose building for lecturers, cinema hall, student cafeteria and senate etc., but permission has been withheld so far. A charitable donation has been given to them to build a computer centre, but the funds have been stopped.

School on the West Bank was delayed for over a month at the start of this year... If this isn't designed to disrupt education, what is it designed to do? And if it is to disrupt, why? Do the Israelis want Palestinians to be nothing other than mutual labourers for them?

3. To drive Palestinians from the West Bank. If good education cannot be obtained on the West Bank, students are forced to go abroad for it, if they can afford to, or not have it at all. Once abroad, many stay away. Is it coincidence that anything, such as education, that shows some organisation for improving the lot of Palestinians is stamped on? Like the municipalities that have had their mayors sacked? Like the mosque-cum-library-cum-hospital-building in Deir el-Balah refugee camp whose organisers have been imprisoned and its construction halted?

Why pick on the foreigners? Another question one has to face is: "Why choose the foreigners to sign?" Two reasons seem important:

— A few people to grease the way. If a few people who are in a weak position in a foreign country can be persuaded to sign then the apparent case for the others refusing later would be weakened. By dividing and pressuring the university personnel, the military government can attempt to make everyone sign in dribs and drabs.

— Seeing is believing, and they don't want foreigners to see too much. The ordinary tourist is a useful character. Escorted around by an Israeli guide (not a single guide permit has been issued to a Palestinian guide on the West Bank since the 1967 invasion, and a permit for a course in guiding parties to the Christian holy sites has also been refused), the ordinary tourist sees a very pleasant and acceptable face of Israel: nice people in a nice Western-style country.

However, once foreigners start to visit Gaza or West Bank or West Bank villages other than the few holy sites around Bethlehem, let alone visit the refugee camps and talk to the inhabitants, they start to see the totally unacceptable faces of Israeli occupation. Four months ago I wouldn't have believed, let alone felt strongly about, many of the things I've now seen. Regrettably, few Israeli civilians or foreigners see much of the oppression in the occupied territories. I think some people don't want them to. Seeing is believing. Perhaps the truth hurts.

— From the Middle East Intelligencer

Ghana: Economic plight and political instability

By Nick Kotch

Reuter

ABIDJAN — After foiling two attempted coups in Ghana during the last month, Flight-Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings appears to have tightened his political grip and bolstered his personal authority in the bankrupt country. But African and Western diplomats, pointing to entrenched conservative opposition and persistent tribal antagonisms, do not rule out further challenges to his revolutionary regime.

The pro-Rawlings rallies after a bungled military coup was crushed in Accra last week emphasised the popularity of the 35-year-old pilot among millions of ordinary Ghanaians, to whom the initials "J.J." mean honesty and financial integrity.

But the country's economic plight, dramatised by nationwide shortages of basic items like bread, beer and soap, has created a mood of political instability that his opponents are clearly prepared

to exploit. In a revealing passage in a speech last week, Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings said that none of the group who helped him seize power last Dec. 31 was still with him in the ruling Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC). "Not one single one of them is a member of this council. I am not going to have cowards messing around with the liberation of this country," he told a crowd in Accra.

Sharp differences over economic and foreign policy have emerged within the PNDC and among its senior officials, informed sources say. A serious defection from the PNDC preceded the foiled coup, which itself was linked to an apparent plot to depose Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings last Oct. 29.

The chief of defence staff, Brigadier Joseph Nuoo-Mensah, resigned from the seven-member council on Nov. 22, saying that no one was clear any longer about who governed Ghana.

"Any hope of bringing about an improvement in the standard of living of our people remains very

doubtful," he said in a disillusioned message, warning that the army was dissatisfied and that arms were being imported into the country without official knowledge.

The potential impact of the brigadier's resignation inside Ghana during this tense period may explain why government radio failed to report it. But his departure has robbed the PNDC of its principal spokesman in relations with Ghana's Western allies, who saw him as a strong element of moderation inside the council.

The authors of last week's coup, which was followed by an unknown number of arrests of civilians and armed forces personnel, have not been identified. But Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings linked them to a group alleged to have plotted his downfall in October.

Searching for clues, diplomats here noted that two radical members of the council — Sergeant Aloka Akata-Pore and former student leader Chris Atim — publicly stressed their support for the PNDC after what is now called the

"October 29" incident.

According to some informed reports, they wanted to "ginger up" the revolution, whose aims were being subverted. Discreet talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) about a future devaluation of the Cedi, Ghana's virtually worthless currency, are known to have angered radicals who see such a move as capitulation to Western pressure. But the fact that both Sergeant Akata-Pore and Mr. Atim are northerners as well as politically left wing, has provoked speculation that tribal hostilities have begun to surface.

The semi-official Ghanaian Times hinted at the origins of last week's failed coup when it denounced "advocates of left extremism and tribalism" in the revolutionary leadership.

Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings was more explicit when he threatened a purge "from the top of the people to the bottom of the PNDC" after the coup, adding "No criminal will take refuge in any tribal sentiment."

The PNDC chairman's own

family origins — his mother was the Ewe tribe but his estranged father is Scottish — have also led to racial attacks against him from opponents who claim he is not a real Ghanaian. He defended himself obliquely in his brief broadcast announcing the failure of the coup when he said: "This country is my country, my motherland and has always been. This country is my fatherland, and has always been."

Most of his political opponents would not seriously dispute that statement. They object to the failure in mending the economy, the emigration of thousands of skilled people, and the close links with Libya — which — worry — aid-giving Western nations.

But Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings pitched his impassioned speech in Accra last week at Ghana's poor people and peasants, promising to educate them from "a to z", and telling them to stop thinking like "domesticated slaves." His is a powerful message, which resounds outside Ghana's borders, and for the time being at least he is strong enough to shout it.

Martial law and sanctions

By Sidney Weiland

Reuter

LONDON — NATO officials say it may take more than the lifting of martial law in Poland to persuade western governments to drop sanctions against the Warsaw regime. The Western alliance is working on policy options on the assumption that Poland will end martial law on Dec. 13 exactly 12 months after it was imposed.

The Polish government has let it be known in Western capitals that this is now a firm objective, barring what it describes as "unforeseen or extraordinary" events. Whether it would be enough to satisfy NATO calls for the ending of "repression" in Poland remains unclear. "We shall want to read the fine print carefully," a senior diplomat said.

Western officials fear many restrictions involved in martial law may be retained under other names in emergency powers now being drafted by the military government. Polish sources have indicated that strikes will be banned for at least a year, and that censorship and some curbs on travel and the right of assembly will be retained.

A key question for the West is how many political detainees will be freed by General Wojciech Jaruzelski's government. At least 1,000 Poles are held under various forms of detention, and many others have been jailed for offences against the martial law regime. Western diplomats believe several thousand people are under varying types of restraint.

Selective releases by the Jaruzelski regime since last year's crackdown were labelled inadequate by the West. Western officials believe Poland has leaked details of its plan to end martial law in hopes of influencing NATO foreign ministers before they meet in Brussels on Dec. 9.

The 16 foreign ministers were in any case due to reconsider Western policy towards Poland. So far, all NATO members except Greece have united in a tough stand against the military regime. But there have been hints some would now like to help Poland's economic recovery.

Polish diplomats say they hope the Brussels meeting will take a softer line and that NATO will ease economic sanctions.

Irrevocable intention

They cite what they call an "irrevocable" intention to end martial law and the release two weeks ago of Solidarity Union leader Lech Walesa as proof that Poland is slowly returning to normal after two-and-a-half years of social turmoil.

Martial law ended a unique experiment in which Solidarity, eastern Europe's only independent trade union, gained many concessions after strikes and protest actions by workers. The union was banned in October, and underground activists failed to rally support for a strike in mid-November, prompting the government to claim the movement had finally been crushed.

NATO foreign ministers will face hard choices when they meet in Brussels, alliance officials said. While they want to keep up pressure on Poland for greater relaxation, they will try to avoid saying anything that could be seized on by Warsaw to delay action on martial law. With the meeting due to end three days before a crucial session of the Polish parliament — billed as the occasion for the formal ending of martial law — NATO may be forced to issue a circumspect holding statement.

"It will be something to test NATO's ingenuity," a British official said. One of the West's three criteria for Poland rendered void

with the outlawing of Solidarity — a demand for a dialogue between the state, the union and the Roman Catholic church.

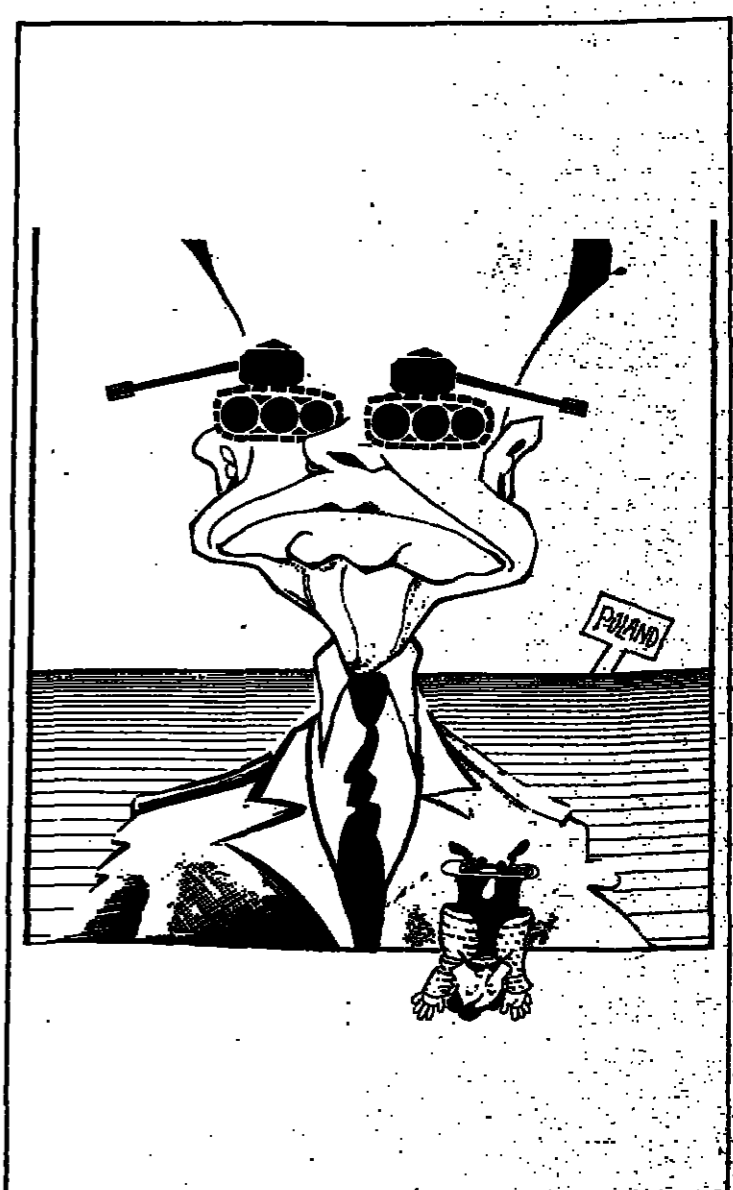
The other criteria called for an end to martial law and the release of detainees. NATO experts say the guidelines may have to be redefined to take account of the changing situation. The dilemma over Poland is only part of a broader problem faced by NATO: How to respond to the new Soviet leadership headed by Yuri Andropov, and to help ease East-West tensions.

NATO sources say the Brussels meeting is unlikely to take a final decision on sanctions, but could leave the way open for concessions if martial law is lifted. What happens then would depend on whether NATO thinks the action is really meaningful. NATO countries suspended government credits to Poland last January and froze negotiations on Warsaw's official debts.

The U.S. went further, also restricting trade. Additionally, President Reagan banned high technology exports to Moscow and imposed other economic sanctions against the Soviet Union. Mr. Reagan argued that the Soviet Union bore "a heavy and direct responsibility for the repression in Poland."

Any easing of U.S. sanctions against the Soviet Union would be seen as a serious signal to the Kremlin that the Reagan administration wants East-West relations to improve. U.S. and West European leaders have listed Poland among problem areas on which they hope Mr. Andropov will move.

West European diplomats doubt Mr. Reagan will lift sanctions against Moscow except in a wider context of improved relations. A U.S. official says that in many ways the Polish regime has



tightened its grip and "there won't be enough substance by December to make any difference to the western position."

Further allied discussions are expected when U.S. Secretary of

State George Shultz makes a European tour fitted around the NATO meeting. He will visit Bonn before going to Brussels and the Hague, Rome, Paris, Madrid and London afterwards.

Mexico's 'mourning mothers'

By Robert Block

Reuter

MEXICO CITY — A group of Mexicans are on hunger strike here in an attempt to force the government to reveal the whereabouts of 507 people who have mysteriously disappeared over the past seven years.

According to the group, the people were abducted by the Mexican authorities and are being held without trial. The hunger strikers, huddled in tents set up inside the city's historic metropolitan cathedral opposite the presidential palace, said they would maintain their vigil until the government provided them with the information they wanted.

Posted outside the cathedral gates are hundreds of photos of missing people, some with brief histories attached, including names and dates of disappearance. Others are just blurred images of nameless faces. The hunger strike will be one of the issues facing incoming President Miguel de la Madrid who takes office tomorrow.

While Mexico shares with most of Latin America a tarnished economic image, it has never shared the region's reputation for human rights abuses.

Mexico denies the existence of political prisoners and torture. By citing as a safe haven for persecuted South American leftists and through much-repeated leftist rhetoric, recent administrations have lent credibility to the denials.

"The disappearances here are nothing like they are in countries like Argentina. Here they are much less. But what enrages us is that human rights are violated by a system that is supposedly law-abiding and democratic," said Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, leader of the "mourning mothers", a group calling for information about missing relatives.

In Argentina thousands of people are still missing after the military government's crackdown on leftists and guerrillas in the late 1970s. Mrs. Ibarra's eldest son, Jesus, disappeared in Mexico seven years ago after police arrested him for involvement in leftist politics. This prompted Mrs. Ibarra to begin a campaign for information which culminated in her running for president this year to publicise the cause.

Right to a trial

She said that most of those missing, like her son, had been active in leftist organisations. But she added that even if they had all done wrong they still had a right to a trial and should not have been abducted. Although she maintains that prisoners are tortured, she believes that most of the missing are still alive in secret jails and military installations. "We have wanted them to have been in jail and have seen them, there is still hope and we refuse to let go," she said.

For over a month the mourning

mothers demonstrated outside the cathedral until just over a week ago when they say they were evicted to make way for preparations for a parade. "If we are kicked out this time we will move to another place and continue the strike," Mrs. Ibarra said.

She said the main purpose of the strike was to make sure the government of President Jose Lopez Portillo remembered their plight. The mourning mothers met President Lopez Portillo last August and he promised to provide answers to their questions on the fate of their missing relatives before his term in office ends.

So far the promise remains unfulfilled. It remains to be seen what Mr. de la Madrid will do when he takes over from President Lopez Portillo. "Miguel de la Madrid must also realise there are many problems in this country, including repression. By now I am sure he knows about the strike here and we will also seek an answer from him when the time comes," Mrs. Ibarra said.

Asked if the 58 hunger strikers would fast until death, she replied: "Death is always a possibility." Recently one of the hunger strikers had been taken to hospital in a serious condition, she said. "Our aim is to continue until we get the answers we want," she said. But another strike organiser, Jose Ramirez, said all the group wanted was to draw attention to its cause. "I don't think anyone here wants to die," he said.

كرد في الجدل

American basketball coach to upgrade Jordanian players

By Riyad M. Ahmad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I'm in a place where I'm needed and where my being here will help willing Jordanian basketball players to reach an international standard," Mr. Robert Taylor, who has been training the national basketball team for two months said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Robert Taylor, a prominent American basketball coach, nominated by United States Sports Academy to train the Jordanian national basketball team said Thursday that in order to be an international basketball player one has to be a good athlete; and this, according to him, is characterized by strength, speed, stamina, endurance, and jumping ability. Which, unfortunately, most of Jordanian basketball players are lacking, Mr. Taylor said.

On the attitude of the Jordanians towards basketball he said that Jordanians are very much encouraging but they consider a good shooter as a "great" player, however, this does not coincide with the fact that a good player

should be a team player who not only can shoot, but also pass, dribble and defend, Mr. Taylor said.

About the national basketball team's last visit to Romania which took place between Oct. 26 and Nov. 1, Mr. Taylor said that "we could have won all the games, but the Jordanians were physically worn out." Mr. Taylor commented that, "the Romanians were physically superior to the Jordanian players both in height and strength, however they played very well to the extent that the Romanians were disappointed about barely beating them."

Mr. Taylor, who has an M.Sc. degree in sports administration, a

combination of business administration and physical education, noted that improving the game will take a lot of work and time consequently he is looking to renew his six-month contract to one year because, he added, it usually takes a long time for any coach to put in his new ideas and techniques.

Mr. Taylor explained that he is currently teaching basic fundamentals of basketball and he is very much concerned with conditioning the players to the new techniques.

Mr. Taylor noted that he is following a man-to-man defence system while the Jordanian players stick to the zone defence system.

World Champions Italy, Romania draw

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — Italy, still suffering from the hangover which followed their World Cup celebrations, were held to a goalless draw by Romania in a European Soccer Championship match here Saturday.

It was their second goalless home draw in Group Five and the World Champions now face the embarrassing prospect of not qualifying for the final stages of the competition.

The Italians must have fancied their chances when Aurel Ticleanu was sent off early in the second half for a foul on Bruno Conti.

But the Romanian defence, with goalkeeper Lung outstanding, soaked up all that the Italians could throw at them.

Mighty Liverpool crashes at Norwich

LONDON (R) — Celebrating soccer fans tend to be conspicuous by their absence in the clubs and pubs of Norwich on Saturday night.

Until Saturday, Norwich City's return to the first division could best be described as disappointing but a 1-0 home win over mighty Liverpool should have the tills ringing merrily this weekend.

Not that League leaders Liverpool will be too despondent with the result because their two closest challengers also lost, leaving "the Reds" three points clear of Manchester United, 1-0 winners at Watford.

United climbed onto the 31-point mark and topped Watford off second place thanks to a 58th minute goal from Northern Irish teenager World Cup star Norman Whiteside.

Nottingham Forest, third at the start of the day, lost 3-2 at City neighbours Notts County, who finished the game with 10 men after Ian McCulloch was sent off in the second half.

European Champions Aston Villa took full advantage by moving into third place, below United on goal difference, with a 1-0 win over London guests West Ham, who had Scottish international full-back Ray Stewart ordered off.

Norwich, who went into the

game second from the bottom, ended Liverpool's nine-match winning streak when striker John Deehan became the toast of the City with the only goal in the 75th minute.

The statuesque Liverpool defence stood back to admire a Mark Barham corner and the unmarked Deehan materialised at the far post to blast the ball past Bruce Grobbelaar — a priceless goal for City... and the local Publicans.

United, knocked out of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup on their last visit to Vicarage Road, had to withstand a first half pounding from the rampant Watford attack.

But goalkeeper Gary Bailey stood firm and United, inspired by England international Steve Coppell, gradually clawed their way back into the game and 13 minutes after the interval Whiteside secured the points with a superb solo goal.

County and Forest produced an all-action thriller which earned both teams a standing ovation from the 24,000 crowd.

McUllloch, later to be the villain of the piece, shot County ahead in the second minute but Ian Wallace put Forest level with his 12th goal of the season three minutes later.

Paul Hooks restored County's advantage in the 37th minute but

again Forest came back and Willie Young made it 2-2 seconds before the break. It was end-to-end stuff throughout the second half but Trevor Christie had the last word in the 61st minute.

Villa, who meet South American Champions Penarol of Uruguay for the World Club title in Tokyo on Dec. 12, outplayed West Ham for much of the match.

But they could find no way past former England goalkeeper Phil Parkes who dealt with everything that came his way until Gordon Cowans' immaculately struck 83rd minute penalty.

Another goalkeeper to enjoy mixed fortunes was current England number one Peter Shilton. He created something of a record by being cautioned before the start of Southampton's home game against Stoke.

Shilton fell foul of referee Darryl Reeves for marking a line with his boot in the six-meter area, an illegal furrow which helps goalkeepers with their positioning.

The day finished on a brighter note for Shilton when Danny Wallace scored the only goal to give Southampton a merited victory and lift them clear of the relegation zone.

Transfer-seeking Alan Brazil of Ipswich added a few thousand dollars to his \$1.6 million price tag with two goals in the 3-2 win at Sunderland.

Australian Open final: Lloyd-Navratilova showdown

MELBOURNE (R) — The showdown which had been looming all week between Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert-Lloyd will take place Sunday in the final of the Australian Open women's tennis tournament.

Evert-Lloyd, hungry for her first Australian title, demolished 17-year-old Andrea Jaeger 6-1, 6-0 in her semifinal Saturday while Navratilova beat her doubles partner Pam Shriver 6-3, 6-4.

The final will be a repeat of last year's thriller which Navratilova won 6-7, 6-4, 7-5 after the pair had held a huge crowd spellbound.

Navratilova, as defending champion and world number one, has most to lose Sunday while Evert-Lloyd is intent on winning the only Grand Slam title to have eluded her.

"The reason I came here to play was because I've never won the Australian Open," she said. "I have maybe two or three more years playing and before I retire I would like to win it."

Evert-Lloyd said that if she won Sunday she would begin to think about capturing the Grand Slam, because following her victory in the U.S. Open she would be already half way there.

She said that she played about as well as she could against Jaeger Saturday.

"I've never this year played two sets like that where I've never had a let down and I've kept playing aggressively," she said. "I felt I had to lift my game when I went out there because Andrea is a level above all the girls I've played this week."

Evert-Lloyd took just 42 minutes to win the match, allowing Jaeger only 25 points.

Navratilova said that she had played well against Shriver and was down only one break point in the whole match.

"I felt pretty confident with my serve although I could have made it easier on myself if I'd converted on the right points," she said. "I think I had tough opposition and I handled it well."

Navratilova said she was looking forward to Sunday's match. "Chris is playing well but she didn't get much opposition today," she said.

"It will be different tomorrow. I'll try to pressure her at the net and she will probably try to become more aggressive and come in a lot," she added.

Shriver said the outcome would hinge on Navratilova. "It will depend on Martina's game more than Chris," she said. "If she falters or gets nervous Chris is always there."

McEnroe ousts Borg in European semifinal

ANTWERP, Belgium (R) — World number one tennis player John McEnroe staged a mid-match recovery to beat his great rival Bjorn Borg of Sweden 2-6, 6-4, 6-3 in a European tournament of champions semifinal match here Saturday.

The 23-year-old American started off hesitantly and Borg played some fierce passing shots to break service twice at two-all and again at 4-2 to take the first set.

"He played damn well that set," McEnroe said afterwards. "If he carries on playing like that, there are not too many people who can beat him."

But then McEnroe found his form again and served ferociously

to keep Borg, five times Wimbledon champion, at bay. Both men held service until McEnroe was leading 5-4. The 26-year-old Swede threw the set away with a double fault at 30-all and McEnroe drew level.

Borg, who is staging a comeback after almost a year out of the Grand Prix circuit, ran into trouble early in the final set and McEnroe was soon 4-1 up.

McEnroe dominated the final set with some fierce serving. He served 13 aces in the match, four in one game.

After the match Borg blamed

his defeat on a loss of rhythm after the first set.

"I started to be more careful in the second set and didn't really go for the shots," he said. "I let him back into the match."

As well as \$60,000 in consolation money, Borg takes away a greater confidence in his form.

"I'm surprising myself a little that I am playing as well as I am right now, I didn't expect to so soon."

McEnroe will play the winner of the other semifinal between Sweden's Mats Wilander and Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia Sunday.

To DHL, the world is one big desk.

Now, getting a vital document or package across the world is easy.

As easy, in fact, as handing it across the desk into the hands of DHL.

The world's most experienced courier network.

We'll see that it gets there.

We'll see that it gets there safe and sound.

We'll see that it gets there fast, all you have to do is call DHL.

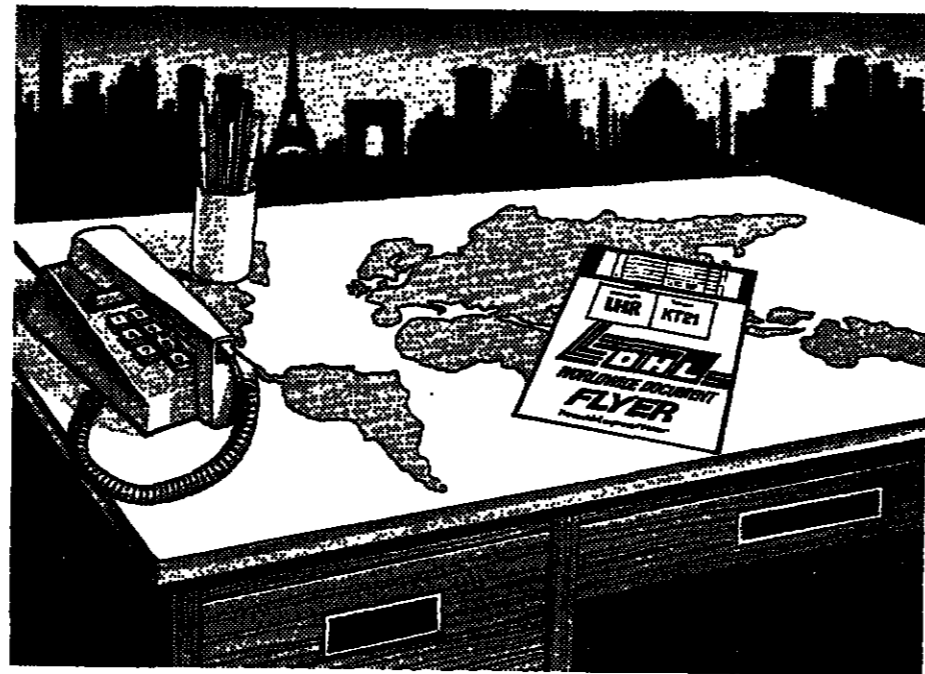
It will seem as if the world were one big desk.

How do we do it?

By having more than 5,000 people operating out of over 300 fully-manned offices the world over.

And that includes 29 offices in and around the Middle East.

By having an intimate



knowledge of airline timetables and customs procedures.

Next time you need something off your desk, fast, call DHL. We'll hand deliver it to almost any desk in the world.

For more information telephone Amman 664415 or 667612.

DHL WORLDWIDE COURIER
You couldn't express it better

DE LUXE FLAT FOR RENT

A deluxe furnished flat with two bedrooms, living room, salon and dining room, two bathrooms, fitted carpets, fully equipped kitchen with electrical appliances, central heating, hot water all year round. Colour TV, telephone, lift and parking area.

Location: Shmeisani.

Please call: Tel. 666956 - Amman
from 8-11 a.m. and 3.30 to 8 p.m.

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Furnished ground floor apartment consists of one bedroom, sitting room, dining room, salon, bathroom and kitchen. Centrally heated. Shmeisani, behind The Flying Carpet, between The Swedish & Romania embassies, Al Sahouri Building.

Tel. 661446, 30846

FOR RENT.....

Furnished one bedroom, centrally heated with telephone and garden.

Call: 41645 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.,
816048 after 2 p.m.

DE LUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Fully-furnished three bedrooms apartment. With salon, dining, sitting, two bathrooms and kitchen. Centrally heated with telephone and a lift.

Shmeisani, behind Shmeisani Bookshop, Zawadik Bldg., Fourth floor.

Tel. 668343

مكتبة الشمس

U.S. warns Japan

The Hungarian Communist Party daily newspaper Nepszabadsag in an editorial Saturday warned that Hungarians would have to live with some belt-tightening measures next year to help the country overcome its economic difficulties caused by the world recession.

Dr. Mohieddin did not specify with whom the government would negotiate for the new loans, but economic sources said all sources would be explored.

-- *Financial Times news features*

Most Cheery	44 Charged	63 Here, I!	33 Part Of
Sinatra's	particle	64 Electra's	B.A.
football	45 Early	brother	34 Late Broz

WORLD

Man with artificial heart is 'cheerful'

SALT LAKE CITY (R) — Dr. Barney Clark, the first person to receive a permanent artificial heart, drank water and talked to his wife Friday night after being taken off a respirator, a hospital official said.

"He sounds hoarse, but he is talking a lot and he seems cheerful," she said.

Dr. Clark, 61, a retired dentist, received his £16,450 polyurethane and aluminium heart on Thursday morning in a 7-12-hour operation at the University of Utah medical centre.

He had been on the respirator to help him breathe, but doctors decided Thursday he was strong enough to do without it.

"The first thing he asked for when the respirator tubes were removed from his throat was water," the official said. "When he was given a small amount he said 'that's good!'"

A doctor said Dr. Clark had some chest pains, but added that this was not unusual after a heart operation.

Sofia outraged as Italy looks for 2nd Bulgarian

ROME (R) — The Bulgarian embassy Saturday described as unjustified an arrest warrant issued on a second Bulgarian national by Italian magistrates investigating the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul in St. Peter's Square last year.

One Bulgarian, airline employee Serguey Antonov, was arrested last week for suspected involvement in the attack. A warrant on the same charge was issued Saturday for compatriot Vassiliev Kolev, who left Italy last summer.

A Bulgarian embassy spokesman said the allegations against the two men were "absolutely unfounded". Next week a special court is due to decide if sufficient evidence exists to justify Mr. Antonov's continued detention.

Judicial sources said a Turkish national, Mehmet Ali Agca, who is serving a life sentence here for the gun attack in which the pontiff was wounded, named the two men in talks with investigating magistrate Ilario Martella.

Relations with Bulgaria, already strained by the arrest of Mr. Antonov, have been stretched further by alleged Bulgarian involvement in other subversive activities in Italy.

"We find ourselves faced with an abundance of hypotheses and an absolute lack of proof", the embassy spokesman said Saturday.

Magistrate Martella has said five Turks were also involved in the attempted assassination of the Pope. Two of them, Oral Celik and Bechir Selenik, are still being sought.

In a separate development in the northern town of Trento, judge Carlo Palermo said last week he had uncovered what he described as a vast trafficking network of arms and heroin dealers who met in Sofia, the Bulgarian capital.

Multi-million dollar deals were made, he said, in which drugs were used by unnamed Middle East buyers as payment for sophisticated arms such as assault helicopters and tanks.

In another development, a customs police report on mafia finances being studied by the finance ministry indicated links between Bulgaria and the mafia in arms and drugs dealing, the Turin newspaper La Stampa reported. Finance ministry officials were not available for comment.

Last February, Luigi Scricciolo, head of the international dep-

artment of the Socialist UIL trade union federation, was arrested and charged with aiding the illegal Red Brigades urban guerrillas by arranging a meeting with Bulgarian agents.

The Bulgarian embassy denied any contact with the left-wing Red Brigades movement.

Official Italian sources said Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister Liuben Gotzev met the Italian ambassador in Sofia earlier this week and hinted at swapping Mr. Antonov for an Italian UIL member and his girl-friend, who were detained in Bulgarian on espionage charges.

The Socialist union leader Giorgio Benvenuto, in an interview published Saturday in the Milan daily Il Giornale, asked how the Bulgarians could propose swapping two people they considered spies for a man they denied was a spy.

The Bulgarian embassy here said there was no talk of a swap, adding Mr. Gotzev had only mentioned Bulgaria's low-key treatment of the Italians to contrast it with the Italian press' treatment of Mr. Antonov and the Bulgarian nation.

Nakasone outlines policy



The newly-elected Japanese prime minister, Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, outlines his political platform in his first speech to Japan's parliament in Tokyo Friday. The 64-year-old leader, considered hawkish on defence, stressed the focal position of the nation's relationship with the United States. (A.P. wirephoto)

U.S. Navy waits to aid Marines if needed

By Phil Davison

ABOARD USS INDEPENDENCE OFF LEBANON (R) — To support U.S. Marines on peacekeeping duty in Lebanon and deter any Soviet meddling in the Middle East, the United States relies on a formidable Mediterranean naval task force that is constantly polishing its combat readiness.

While a Soviet intelligence-gathering ship cruised not far away, Viking and Corsair fighter aircraft this week demonstrated their firepower, sending bombs and torpedoes hurtling into the sea amid plumes of flame, smoke and spray.

Correspondents watched from the flight deck of the aircraft carriers Independence as the U.S. Navy warplanes showed they were ready if called upon to support the Marines at present in Lebanon as part of a multinational peace-keeping force.

The demonstration took place in the Eastern Mediterranean, about halfway between Lebanon and Cyprus, a maritime zone patrolled by the Independence and the rest of the U.S. Sixth Fleet's task force 60 as an emergency back-up to the Marines.

The bombs and torpedoes were not live, but they sent a shudder through even this mighty carrier. So did the F-14 Tomcat fighter that broke the sound barrier as it screamed past our port side with its wings at right-angles to the sea.

Lieutenant-Commander Bob Besal smiled as he gazed towards the Soviet ship clearly visible about two miles away. "It's a Mimy-Y, a converted whaling vessel now used for intelligence-gathering," he said. "He'll stay with us."

The task force has been in the Eastern Mediterranean, generally around 100 kilometres south of Cyprus, since last June. Its commanders see its general mandate as a deterrent to any Soviet or Soviet-backed moves in the Middle East.

But its immediate task is to provide the 1,200 Lebanon-based Marines with what one of the task force's group commanders, Rear-Adm. Richard C. Berry, described as "a friendly, formidable asset."

"The Marines were sent to Lebanon in a permissive environment. If the environment becomes hostile, we're here to make sure they can withdraw," he said.

For President Reagan's Middle East peace envoy Philip Habib, the Independence serves another useful purpose, as a "lily-pad", a helicopter landing point on its regular shuttles between Middle East capitals.

Electronics vs missiles

While the fighter pilots get most of the acclaim, electronic equipment aircraft such as the Hawkeye early warning plane and the Prowler electronic warfare and jamming craft would play an increasingly important role in future combat, pilots said.

Britain's conflict with Argentina over the Falkland Islands earlier this year showed that intercepting and deflecting enemy weapons was at least as important to a naval fleet as firing its own weapons accurately, they added.

Watching plane after plane catapulted from an aircraft carrier deck, it is easy to understand why carrier pilots think of themselves as a breed apart. The steam-driven catapults propel a 32,000 kilogramme aircraft from stationary to 200 kilometres an hour in five seconds.

"For these few seconds, you feel totally helpless," said Tomcat pilot Lieutenant Mike Sturm of the "fighting 14" top-hatters' squadron, said to be the oldest fighter squadron in the U.S. Navy. "The force of gravity throws you back. You know that if the technicians haven't done their job, you can end up in the water."

The Independence has lost one pilot this year and saved nine in landing or take-off accidents.

Landing on a heaving carrier deck, aiming for one of four tripwires to pull you to stop, is what demands most skills and places most stress on a pilot. He gives his aircraft full throttle as he touches the deck so that he can take off again if he misses all four wires with the hook below his plane.

"All anxiety," is how Lieutenant Sturm, 28, of Indianapolis, described it. "No matter how many times you do it, your pulse quickens, you hear your co-pilot breathing heavily through your earphones."

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. doctor speaks of Lebanon war

UNITED NATIONS (R) — An American doctor who tended hundreds of victims of the conflict in Lebanon this summer said that the modern doctor was no match for the modern soldier. Dr. Amal Shamma, who was seen almost daily on television screens as he fought to save maimed children in a Beirut hospital, said it was an unequal struggle between the levels of killing and healing. "But the Israelis won no war," she told a hunch audience that included U.N. diplomats and officials. "The Palestinians were not exterminated. They are still there, and as long as they are there the problem will persist. I see no good that has come out of this (Israeli) invasion. I see no way to justify it. War is no answer. War leads to more war."

Palestinian jailed for life in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — A Palestinian convicted of trying to kill a United Arab Emirates (UAE) diplomat at his embassy in Kuwait in August was sentenced to life imprisonment Saturday. Kuwait criminal court jailed Hussam Hamdan Ahmed Hamdan after finding him guilty of trying to assassinate UAE Charge d'Affaires Mohammed Ibrahim Al-Jowaid with a pistol. Mr. Jowaid was shot in the jaw and the palms of both hands by a man posing as a journalist who visited him at his office. Kuwait officials said after the incident on Aug. 23, Mr. Jowaid, in his thirties, was not seriously injured. Hamdan's father told reporters after Saturday's court hearing that he would appeal to the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al Sabah, to reduce the sentence.

Weinberger ends Yugoslav talks

BELGRADE (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger left Belgrade for Washington Saturday after a 24-hour official visit during which he reiterated Washington's support for Yugoslavia's independence and territorial integrity. Mr. Weinberger had a meeting with President Petar Stambolic and a final round of talks with Defence Minister Branko Mamula before his departure.

Libya grants Britain access to engineer

LONDON (R) — Libya has granted Britain consular access to a Scottish engineer given a 12-year jail sentence in Tripoli last weekend. The British Foreign Office has said. An official will visit Robert Maxwell, 34, Sunday's Foreign Office spokesman said. He did not say where Mr. Maxwell was being held. Mr. Maxwell's wife, Grace, said at her Scottish home she had accepted a Libyan offer to visit her husband.

Thais seize heroin worth \$16 million

BANGKOK (R) — Thai police said Saturday they seized 84 kilogramme, of heroin worth more than \$16 million after a gun battle with seven traffickers on a beach southeast of Bangkok. They said one of the traffickers was killed during the raid Friday night on an isolated cottage on the beach in Rayong province on the Gulf of Thailand. Officers surrounded the cottage after a tip-off that a drug shipment was about to be smuggled out by sea and exchanged fire with the occupants, killing one of them and arresting five. One escaped.

Manila names price for renegade priest

MANILA (R) — People in the northern Philippines have raised part of a 200,000 pesos (\$24,000) reward on the head of a renegade Catholic priest alleged to have joined the Communists, a senior military official said. Regional commander Brig. Gen. Victorino Azada said this showed that it was not just the military but also the people who wanted Father Corrado Balweg caught. He said the official Philippine news agency that concerned citizens in the northern mountain and Abra provinces had put up 70,000 pesos (\$8,140) as their contribution to the reward.

Chinese constitution passed by parliament

PEKING (R) — China's parliament Saturday ratified a new state constitution restoring the post of president and legally obligating the country's one billion inhabitants to practise birth control.

National People's Congress (NPC) delegates approved the text by 3,037 votes to nil with three abstentions.

Officials said the new head of state—the first since Mao Tse-tung's red guards hounded Liu Shaoqi from office in 1967—would not be appointed until next year.

The new constitution replaces the 1978 leftist charter promulgated under then-Premier Hua Guofeng, now disgraced.

It marks a return to the rule of law, cast aside in the tumultuous years of Mao's 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Symbolically, NPC delegates also voted Saturday to scrap a version of the national anthem which includes praise of Mao, and to restore the original words.

The passing of the constitution marks another state in the process of rolling back Mao's reforms which was begun four years ago by

Deng Xiaoping. Deng, having outmanoeuvred Hua Guofeng to regain power in late 1978 and put his own men in key positions, has now seen the parliament formally turn its back on what are considered past leftist excesses.

Although undisputedly China's top leader, Mr. Deng characteristically watched Saturday's proceedings from a back seat.

He sat in the third row of the podium occasionally chatting to his top aide, party General Secretary Hu Yaobang.

The new constitution has 138 articles compared with 60 in the 1978 text.

Although it abolishes the right to strike introduced by Mao in 1975, it extends the list of civil rights to which Chinese are entitled, guaranteeing them equality before the law, freedom of worship and theoretical protection from arbitrary arrest.

It lays down a formidable list of citizens' duties including for the first time the clause: "Both husband and wife have the duty to practise family planning."

Right-wing gunmen move into Nicaragua

By Bernd Debusmann

Alleged CIA hand

LAS TROJES, Honduras (R) — Right-wing gunmen fighting to overthrow Nicaragua's revolutionary leadership have moved many of their camps from Honduras into Nicaragua, according to residents along the tense border.

They offered no reason for the move, in the first ten days of November.

Diplomats in the capital of Tegucigalpa said the U.S. and Honduran governments have been embarrassed by a flurry of reports on their involvement in the low-level guerrilla war Nicaragua

rightists have been waging since the end of Anastasio Somoza's dictatorship three years ago.

One senior diplomat who declined to be named suggested that the war had now moved into a new phase. For the past 18 months, rightists have been training new recruits in the use of modern weapons ranging from assault rifles to 81 mm mortars.

The move away from Honduran territory coincided with preparations for President Reagan's first visit to Central America, an area torn by the ideological struggle between left and right.

"There was a big camp near here," said Felipe Castro, a burly Nicaraguan exile credited with intimate knowledge of "la contra" by villagers in Las Trojes, a hamlet of one-storey houses nestling in the hills that overlook the frontier with Nicaragua.

"La contra" is the term used along the border for the right-wing followers of the late President Somoza, who are pledged to overthrow the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) now running Nicaragua.

"There were several hundred men in the camp," said Mr. Castro. "But now it is almost empty. Perhaps eight are left, finishing training. The others have gone into Nicaragua to fight from there."

His assertion gave weight to a report in Nicaragua's pro-government newspaper Nuevo Diario that rightist gunmen had set up bases in mountains surrounding the Nicaraguan town of Jalapa, about 30 kilometres south of here.

Other villagers agreed that men of "la contra" had run camps and moved freely across the border before their departure a few weeks ago.

"My four sons are all in la contra," said Rosalia Hernandez, a weatherbeaten woman in her forties who explained she had left Nicaragua for fear of reprisals against her family because of the activities of the sons.

"They were in the camp here but went into Nicaragua at the beginning of November," she said, adding she did not expect them to visit her again "for some time."

Similar accounts were given by villagers in Cifuentes, an hour-and-a-half to the west by jeep on a spine-jarring track that clings to mountainsides and plunges through fast-running streams.

In recent weeks the track has seen a succession of television teams and reporters bumping to the Western sector of the border in vain searches for rightist military camps.

The influx follows reports in the United States that the U.S. ambassador in Tegucigalpa, John Negroponte, is running a covert operation to destabilise Nicaragua involving American military advisors and personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr. Negroponte has said the reports contain "many errors" but there has been no outright denial. In Tegucigalpa, U.S. embassy spokesman Robert Callaghan answers questions on American involvement with the rightists by saying "we do not comment on covert operations."

There is speculation that some anti-Sandinistas remain in the mountains and jungle of more remote areas of the border.

"There's a stretch of 200 kilometres or so which might as well be on the moon," said an aid worker familiar with eastern Honduras. "No one knows what's going on there."

Armed forces chief Gustavo Alvarez told reporters recently he could not rule out the possibility that "bands of armed anti-Sandinista dissidents" existed along the border, adding "it is very difficult to control it metre by metre."

Gen. Alvarez, widely considered the most powerful man in Honduras, insisted that there are no camps and no cooperation between the Honduran army and the rightists. "You all talk about camps," he said, "why don't you go and look for them. If you find one, advise me."

According to the Nicaraguans, some 5,000 former members of Somoza's hated National Guard and about 2,000 men from the Miskito tribe which straddles the border have been operating from Honduran territory. Western diplomats in Tegucigalpa consider the figure inflated.

429 raids

The Nicaraguan foreign ministry last month presented the diplomatic corps in Managua with a "white book" which listed 429 raids and border incidents from Honduras since Jan. 1, 1980.

The Sandinistas put their own death toll at 230 and said the "Somozistas" had suffered about 540 casualties.

As tension rose this autumn, Nicaragua imposed a state of military emergency along the entire border with Honduras and stepped up searches of villages suspected of harbouring or supporting rightist guerrillas.

At the same time, according to accounts from refugees and diplomats, rightists stepped up a recruitment campaign in Nicaraguan border villages and increased military operations.

As a result, several hundred villagers left their homes and fled across the border. Some said they had been persecuted because they belonged to the Pentecostal church, an Evangelical sect that Nicaragua has accused of collaborating with the CIA.

In a two-week period in November, some 500 Nicaraguans fled to Danli, a dusty market town some 80 kilometres west of here. The majority were women, old men and children, many of them apparently related to armed anti-Sandinista dissidents.

Inquest into British nurse's death goes on

LEEDS, England (R) — In a coroner's court drama that has grabbed British headlines since opening on Nov. 17, a former policeman is finally getting a public hearing for his allegation that his daughter was murdered in Saudi Arabia in 1979.

But British surgeon Richard Arnot, one of two men whom businessman Ron Smith has accused of the killing, faced questioning calmly at the coroner's inquest here this week.

Dr. Arnot described the death of Mr. Smith's 25-year-old daughter, Helen, who was a nurse working at a Jeddah hospital, and a Dutch seaman, Johannes Otten, as a gruesome accident after an illegal but "perfectly relaxed and enjoyable" drinking party.

Mr. Smith has waged a three-year campaign to force the local coroner in this northern English city, his daughter's home town, to hold the inquest, which continues on Monday.

He was fined £50 (\$80) on Nov. 23 for interrupting the hearing with his accusation against Dr. Arnot and a French diver, Jacques Texier. He later admitted through his lawyer that he could not prove the charge.

For the British press, which has been filling column after column with the story, his outburst turned the inquest into an open test of his accusation.

Dr. Arnot said he was asleep when Miss Smith and Mr. Otten fell 20 metres to their deaths from an apartment balcony in Jeddah where they were presumably making love.

His greatest concern after the deaths was to conceal from Saudi authorities the fact that liquor, banned in Saudi Arabia, was served at his party, he said.

He also told the inquest that his former wife, Penelope, had committed adultery with another guest at the party. After she disclosed

her adultery to Saudi investigators, he said, she feared she might suffer the Koranic penalty — stoning to death.

In a story packed with sensation and mystery, the medical evidence had been particularly full of contradictions.

Pathologist Michael Green, who examined Miss Smith's body after it was brought home to England, said her injuries could indicate she was beaten and raped.

Danish pathologist Joergen Delgaard said her injuries would have been much more severe if she had fallen 70 feet onto pavement, which was the account accepted by the Saudi authorities.

Mr. Delgaard said he believed Miss Smith was killed by a blow to the head and that her body was later dropped from a much lower height.

Other medical examiners supported Dr. Arnot's account and Saudi pathologist Mohammad Kheir said there was no evidence of foul play.

Mr. Otten's body, found half-clothed and impaled on railings below apartment, was cremated soon after the incident, so other pathologists were not able to examine it.

Mr. Smith had his daughter's remains brought to Leeds as part of his campaign to expose what he believes was a cover-up. He says the British Foreign Office took part in the cover-up.

Testifying himself, he said he began to doubt the accepted account of his daughter's death when he saw her injuries, which he said were not the kind suffered in a 70-foot fall.

Among the courtroom disclosures here was an admission by the British pathologist that he left out of his first report on Helen's injuries those which indicated she could have been raped.

He did so, he said, because he did not want to distress Mr. Smith.

Old friend says Reagan will seek re-election

WASHINGTON (R) — Sen. Paul Laxalt, one of President Ronald Reagan's closest confidants, says long experience and talks with his old friend convince him Mr. Reagan will seek re-election in 1984.

Mr. Laxalt, a conservative Republican from Nevada, says he sees "the same glint in the president's eye" that he saw when Mr. Reagan decided to fight then President Gerald Ford for the Republican nomination in 1976.

But the senator said in an interview with Reuters that Mr. Reagan, at 71 the oldest U.S. president in history, is unlikely to announce his decision before next summer at the earliest.

Although the election is nearly two years off, in Nov. 1984, Sen. Edward Kennedy's announcement that he will not accept the Democratic Party's nomination has focused fresh attention on the issue of who the main contenders might be.

Mr. Reagan has refused comment on his own plans and White House officials insist he has made no decision.

Nonetheless, he recently persuaded Mr. Laxalt to take charge of the Republican Party in Jan-

uary as his personal liaison man and put it in fighting form for the coming campaign.

In last month's elections Republicans lost ground to opposition Democrats in Congress and in state governments.

Mr. Reagan dates from the 1960s and who headed the Reagan presidential campaigns of 1976 and 1980, said he would not have accepted the party leadership were he not convinced the president would run in 1984.

"There was no firm commitment made and I wouldn't ask for one nor is he prepared this early to make one," he said.

But after a long private talk with Mr. Reagan in the White House he said "I was satisfied that he'll be a candidate."

Sen. Laxalt said one power incentive for a Reagan candidacy is that his withdrawal might subject the Republican party to turmoil among would-be nominees.

Democratic candidates' declarations are expected early next year from a large field of contenders led by former Vice-President Walter Mondale.